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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
NISHIDA et al.

Confirmation No. 5136
Atty Docket. No. 46244

Application No. 10/534,104
Appln. Filed: May 6, 2005

Group Art Unit: 1761
Examiner: Not Assigned

Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING FERMENTED BEVERAGES

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February 11, 2008

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The applicants hereby submit the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies of documents listed thereon which are disclosed in the attached European Patent Office (EPO) Official Action which issued on November 19, 2007. Additionally, I hereby certify that each enclosed document listed on the herewith Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months ago by the attached EPO Official Action, dated November 19, 2007. Please refer to the Action for information on each document. Of the seven cited documents, D1-D7, the documents D1-D4 have been made of record in the present application, previously. Accordingly, documents D5-D7 are submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement.

In addition to the above three month certification, this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is submitted before the issue by the PTO of any substantive Office Action in this application. Accordingly, no IDS filing fee is required.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to

that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 are earnestly solicited along with an early action on the merits.

Entry of this IDS and favorable consideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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